



## Grades 4-5 - Vocabulary: Pinnipeds

BLUBBER - a thick layer of fat under the skin of certain animals that insulates against the cold.

BULL - a male pinniped.

CALIFORNIA SEA LION - a specie of eared seal.

CARNIVORE - a meat-eater.

COLONY - a group of pinnipeds that gathers on land in a rookery.

COW - a female pinniped.

EARED SEALS - pinnipeds with small, external ears and large, hairless, flippers - hind flippers can rotate forward so that they are able to "walk" on all four flippers.

FLIPPERS - limbs that have been modified for swimming.

HARBOR SEAL - a specie of true seal.

HAREM - a group of females that lives in the territory of a male who will defend them from the approach of other males.

HAUL OUT - the term used when pinnipeds come out of the water to rest on land or ice.

MAMMALS - air breathing vertebrate animals that are warm-blooded, covered with hair, and bear live young that are nursed with milk produced by the mother.

MARINE MAMMALS - mammals that live and feed in and around the sea, such as whales and seals.

MIGRATE - to move from one area to another to feed and/or breed.

MOLT - to shed an old coat of fur.

MYOGLOBIN - a pigment in the muscles of pinnipeds that holds oxygen.

PINNIPEDS - "fin-footed" aquatic mammals, i.e. seals, sea lions, and walruses.

PREDATOR - an animal that hunts and eats other animals (prey).

PUP - a baby pinniped.

ROOKERY - a place where colonies of pinnipeds gather to mate and give birth.

STREAMLINED - smooth, rounded, and tapered at both ends for ease of moving through water.

TRUE SEALS - pinnipeds that have small ear openings (lack external ears); small, haired flippers; and "crawl" on land.